# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3141
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2017
Special Tiger Protection Force
Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a proposal is under consideration to constitute Special Tiger Protection Force for protection of tigers through National Tiger Conservation Authority and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has sent any such proposal to the Government and if so, the details and status thereof;
(c) whether the Government proposes to make some contribution for this force;
(d) whether the Government has any proposal to bring tigers to Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve in the near future; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a)Based on budget speech of the then Finance Minister in 2008, raising, arming and deploying Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) was envisaged for 13 tiger reserves namely - Ranthambhore (Rajasthan), Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh), Corbett (Uttarakhand), Bandipur (Karnataka), Kanha (Madhya Pradesh), Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh), Pench (Madhya Pradesh), Tadoba-Andhari (Maharashtra), Pench (Maharashtra), Similipal (Odisha), Kaziranga (Assam), Pakke (Arunachal Pradesh) and Mudumalai (Tamil Nadu). Subsequently, 4 more tiger reserves, Nawegoan-Nagzira and Melghat (Maharashtra), Kawal and Amrabad (Telangana) Tiger Reserves included. The said force is operational in 7 tiger reserves and the details are at Annexure-I.

(b)Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan was one of the thirteen tiger reserves covered by the constitution of STPF. Accordingly, the said force is operational in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve.

(c)Funding assistance is provided to the tiger reserves under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger for various activities which, inter alia, includes funding for Special Tiger Protection Force.

(d) & (e)Approval of the Government of India has been conveyed to the State of Rajasthan for Tiger re-introduction by December, 2018, as per Standard Operating Procedure of the National Tiger Conservation Authority on "Active Management towards rehabilitation of Tigers from source areas at the landscape level". This includes associated activities such as habitat development and augmentation, voluntary village relocation and retrofitting for existing infrastructure to be carried out simultaneously by the State Government.

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